people whose L.P.G. connection has been released from the M.P's. quota;

(b) what steps are taken by Government when the person who has been sanctioned an L.P.G. connection lives at a place where there is no L.P.G. agency;

(c) whether all the L.P.G. agencies in the country are working in a proper manner; and

(d) if not, what steps have been taken by Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) After receipt of priority voucher, an applicant can expect at LPG connection within 90 days.

(b) LPG conncetions are provided from the nearest LPG agency.

(c) and (d) Individual complaints as and when received are immediately enquired into and prompt remedial measures taken.

Allocation of Gas to Industries

3929. SHRI P. UPENDRA:

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a large gap between the availability and allocation of gas to differnt industries;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to formulate a long term policy to deal with the situation; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Almost all the available gas has been allocated.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Funds invested by ONGC in foreign banks

3930. DR. BAPU KALDATE:

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI VENOD SHARMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ONGC has been investing its surplus funds in foreign banks in violation of the normal practice of investing its funds in public sector units in the country;

(b) if so, what is the amount invested by the ONGC in foreign banks (with names of the banks), till date;

(c) what are the reasons for deviation from the practice of investing surplus funds in Public Sector units; and

(d) what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) According to ONGC, it has not invested any of its surplus funds in violotion of the normal practice and it invests its short term surplus funds in approved securities and therefore questions at (b) to (d) do not arise.

Passing of HBJ pipeline through Madhya Pradesh

3931. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government has demanded that the Bijaipur pipeline be passed through Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what is the precise demand and the extent of adjustment and realignment required to meet the said damand;

(c) what are the projects in Madhya Pradesh proposed to be set up thereby; and